

# Michigan United Conservation Clubs

MUCC is the Home of: *Michigan Out-of-Doors*™ Magazine & *Michigan Out-of-Doors*™ Television

The Institute for Conservation Education: Wildlife Encounters™ • Tracks™ Magazine for Kids • Camp for Kids • Conservation Academy

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## House Committee on Tourism, Natural Resources and Outdoor Recreation

**Tuesday, March 23, 2010**

**Follow-up Testimony of Michigan United Conservation Clubs (MUCC)**

**Re: SB 1013 (S-1)**

Mr. Chair and committee members, given some of the questions that arose from the last committee hearing on Senate Bill 1013 (S-1), MUCC wanted to follow-up with some information that should help to clarify some of the points discussed regarding the economic impact hunters and anglers have on our state's economy, and will further enhance should Senate Bill 1013 become enacted.

Attached to this testimony you will find two separate documents summarizing hunter/angler participation in Michigan compared to other states as well as the spending, tax, and jobs benefits Michigan receives from sportsmen's economic impact on our state. This data was compiled by the U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service's National Survey of Fishing, Hunting and Wildlife-Associated Recreation in 2006.<sup>1</sup> That Survey also contains information regarding "Wildlife Watching" participation and the significant economic benefits Michigan receives from that activity also. To summarize, here is a breakdown of the pertinent data referenced at last week's committee hearing:

- Hunting/Fishing expenditures in Michigan by Residents and Non-Residents
  - \$3.5 billion annually, \$2,071 per person average – p. 26 of the Survey
  - \$2.71 billion on trips/equipment, \$2.5 billion from MI residents alone
  - This spending creates an additional \$5.9 billion ripple effect annually
- Wildlife Watching expenditures in Michigan by Residents and Non-Residents
  - \$1.1 billion annually, \$332 per person average – p. 40 of the Survey

By providing this information, MUCC is not attempting to belittle the great value non-consumptive recreation has on our state. Rather, in the context of various testimony from the last

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<sup>1</sup> <http://www.census.gov/prod/2008pubs/fhw06-mi.pdf>

hearing, we wanted to be sure this Committee was aware of the factual data available. From your own experience you likely already understand that hunting/fishing and wildlife watching are not mutually exclusive. According to the Survey, 23 percent of wildlife watchers also fish or hunt and 49 percent of sportspersons enjoy wildlife watching. Most of our members enjoy both non-consumptive recreation in addition to hunting, fishing, and trapping.

With respect to Senate Bill 1013, however, MUCC realizes the great potential for Michigan's growing moose herd under science-based management that has been so successful for other great game species in our state – elk, bear, turkey, and whitetail deer. We believe this legislation will allow state resource managers to provide sustainable hunting opportunities that will further benefit Michigan's economy and improve upon our state's rich outdoor heritage. We encourage you to vote "yes" on this legislation and thank you for your continued dedication to improving the opportunities made available by our state's rich and abundant natural resources.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "D. Nyberg", written over the typed name.

Dave Nyberg

Legislative Affairs Manager

# Michigan sportsmen

1.37 million hunters & anglers spending \$9.4 million a day



TOTAL SPENDING \$3.4 billion

Casting  
benefits  
throughout  
the economy.

- Sportsmen support more jobs in Michigan than the University of Michigan, the state's largest employer (46,000 jobs vs. 38,000).
- Annual spending by Michigan sportsmen is nearly twice as much as the revenues of Monroe-based La-Z-Boy company (\$3.4 billion vs. \$1.9 billion).
- Michigan sportsmen annually spend more than the combined cash receipts for dairy, greenhouse/nursery, corn, soybeans and cattle - the state's top five agricultural commodities (\$3.4 billion vs. \$2.9 billion).
- Michigan sportsmen spend \$177 million annually on outboard boats and engines to get out on the water and around the marshes for fishing and hunting.
- More Michigan residents hunt and fish than attend Detroit Pistons games (1.37 million vs. 905,000).

## Lots of bang. Even more bucks.

Jobs	46,000
Salaries and wages	\$1.7 billion
Federal Taxes	\$406 million
State and Local Taxes	\$378 million
Ripple Effect	\$5.9 billion



CSF and NASC are the most respected and trusted hunting and fishing organizations in the political arena. With support from every major hunting and fishing organization, we are the leader in promoting sportsmen's issues with elected officials. CSF works directly with the bi-partisan Congressional Sportsmen's Caucus in the U.S. Congress; NASC works with affiliated state sportsmen's caucuses in state legislatures around the country.

Congressional Sportsmen's Foundation 202-543-6850 [www.sportsmenslink.org](http://www.sportsmenslink.org)

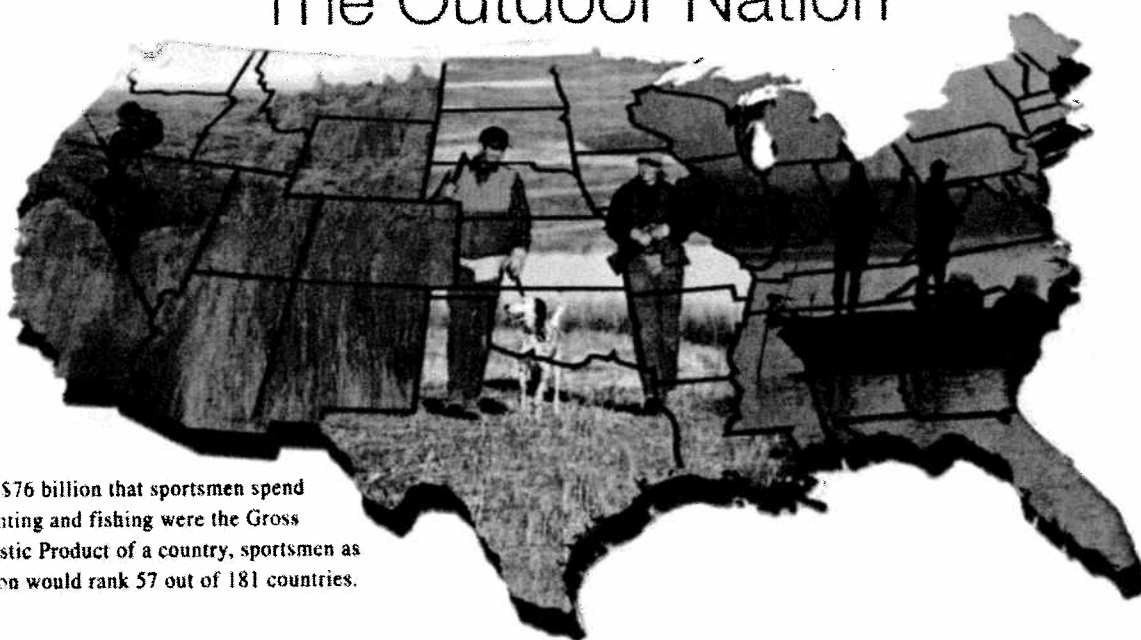
In partnership with



National Marine Manufacturers Association



# The Outdoor Nation



If the \$76 billion that sportsmen spend on hunting and fishing were the Gross Domestic Product of a country, sportsmen as a nation would rank 57 out of 181 countries.

PARTICIPATION	SPENDING	JOBS	SALARIES/WAGES	FEDERAL STATE & LOCAL TAXES
Sportsmen 34 million	\$76 billion	1.6 million	\$60 billion	\$25.6 billion
Anglers 30 million	\$42 billion	1 million	\$38 billion	\$16.4 billion
Hunters 4 million	\$23 billion	600,000	\$21 billion	\$9.2 billion

Every single state makes a contribution through revenue, taxes, and jobs. Here are the facts on Michigan's anglers and hunters.

PARTICIPATION		RANK
Resident sportsmen	1.37 million	# 6
Resident anglers	1 million	# 6
Resident hunters	721,000	# 3
Out of state hunters	32,000	# 26
Out of state anglers	318,000	# 5
Days afield	11.7 million	# 3
Days on the water	22.5 million	# 3

	SPENDING	RANK
Sportsmen	\$3.4 billion	# 6
Fishing	\$2 billion	# 5
Hunting	\$1.3 billion	# 4

	JOBS	RANK
Sportsmen	46,000	# 7
Fishing	26,700	# 6
Hunting	19,500	# 5



The majority of all sportsmen consider themselves "likely voters" and 8 in 10 say that a candidate's position on sportsmen's issues is important in determining for whom they will vote.

If all hunters and anglers living in Michigan voted in the 2004 presidential election, they would have equaled 43% of the entire vote.

1 out of 6 residents hunt or fish.

[www.sportsmenslink.org](http://www.sportsmenslink.org)

\*A respondent who is both a hunter and an angler is counted in each category, but only once for total participation numbers.

\*\*Money spent on an item for both hunting and fishing is only counted for in the total spending category.

\*\*\*Sample size too small to be reliable.

Statistics come from the U.S.F.W.S. 2006 National Survey of Fishing, Hunting, and Wildlife-Associated Recreation, Southwick and Associates, American Sportfishing Association, and Association of Fish and Wildlife Agencies. For further information, contact CSF at 202-543-6850.

# Sportsmen

## *The Broader Picture*

### A Report for Michigan Legislators and Policy Makers



When state legislators and policy makers face decisions on wildlife management and sportsmen's issues, they need to be informed about the economic impact of hunters and anglers and their size in numbers and strength as a constituency.

It is important for policy makers to understand public opinions and attitudes on hunting and fishing. Finally, it is crucial that lawmakers be aware of the revenue streams for the fish and wildlife departments with regulatory authority over hunting, fishing, and habitat.

The National Assembly of Sportsmen's Caucuses, in partnership with the Michigan State Chapter of the National Wild Turkey Federation, is pleased to present this report to assist legislators and policy makers in making informed decisions in support of achieving a stronger, healthier hunting and fishing tradition in Michigan.

### A Look Inside



<i>Sportsmen as a Constituency</i>	2
<i>Sportsmen as an Economic Force</i>	3
<i>Sportsmen Pay - Michigan Benefits</i>	4
<i>State Wildlife Grants</i>	5
<i>Licenses, Tags &amp; Permits Add Up</i>	6
<i>Hunting and Fishing Access</i>	10
<i>State Agency Contact Information</i>	11





# *Sportsmen as a Constituency*

One by one hunters and anglers add up and collectively they are a constituency to be reckoned with. Hunters and anglers know that their passion for the outdoors must be matched with active participation in the political process. Lawmakers and regulators make decisions everyday that affect their passion and hunters and anglers pay attention, and take those decisions into account when they vote.

## **1.37 Million**

Hunters and Anglers Live in Michigan



Resident Sportsmen	1,371,000
Resident Anglers	1,077,000
Resident Hunters	721,000
Non-resident Anglers	318,000
Non-Resident Hunters	32,000

## **TAKE A CLOSER LOOK**

- 1 out of 6 residents hunt or fish.
- More Michigan residents hunt and fish each year than attended Detroit Pistons games (1.37 million vs. 905,000).

## **TURNING OUT TO VOTE**

Nationwide polling indicates that a huge majority of all sportsmen consider themselves “likely voters” and 8 in 10 say that a candidate’s position on sportsmen’s issues is important in determining whom they will vote for.

If all hunters and anglers living in Michigan voted in the 2004 presidential election, they would have equaled 43% of the entire vote.



# Sportsmen as an Economic Force



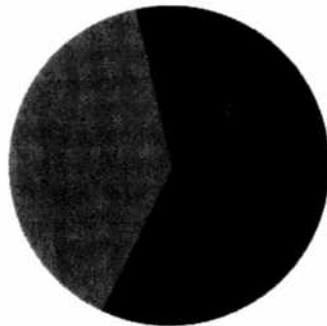
Without hunters and anglers, Michigan's economy would be a lot smaller. \$3.4 billion smaller, in fact. That's how much they spend on their passion for the outdoors. Hunters and anglers keep people working: not just in typical hunting and fishing jobs, but also in gas stations, retail, restaurants and hotels. Not only does their spending generate jobs, it also generates state and local taxes, helping the state's government. It adds up to more than you might think, creating an economic ripple effect reaching every corner and voting district of the state.

## \$3.4 Billion

*Spent annually by sportsmen in Michigan*

### ANNUAL RETAIL SPENDING

Hunters  
\$1.3 billion



Anglers  
\$2 billion

This spending supports...

- 46,000 jobs
- \$1.7 billion salaries
- \$378 million state and local tax revenue
- \$5.9 billion ripple effect on the economy

## THE BUSINESS OF HUNTING AND FISHING

- Annual spending by Michigan is nearly twice as much as the revenues for Monroe, MI based La-Z-Boy company (\$3.4 billion vs. \$1.9 billion).
- Sportsmen support more jobs than the University of Michigan, the state's largest employer (46,000 jobs vs. 38,000).
- Michigan sportsmen annually spend more than the combined cash receipts for dairy, greenhouse/nursery, corn, soybeans and cattle - the state's top five agricultural commodities (\$3.4 billion vs. \$2.9 billion).
- State and local taxes generated annually by hunting and fishing could fund 6,641 teachers' salaries.



## *Sportsmen Pay - Michigan Benefits*

With hundreds of millions of dollars spent each year, the cost of managing wildlife across the country is extremely high. Unlike other state government agencies, most fish and game departments receive little support from taxes paid by the general public. Instead, the majority of their operating funds, as much as 75%, come directly from hunters and anglers.

Through license fees and special excise taxes on outdoor equipment, sportsmen currently contribute more than \$4.7 million each day for the benefit of wildlife nationwide. The knowledge of how this money is gathered and how it is spent contributes to a greater understanding of the overall conservation picture.



### **License Fees      \$49 million**

The largest portion of the sportsman's contribution to state fish and wildlife divisions.

### **Excise Taxes      \$17.7 million**

Excise taxes are paid in three categories: hunting equipment and ammunition, fishing and boating equipment, and motorboat fuel. All proceeds from the excise taxes are divided among the 50 state wildlife agencies. Each state's share is based on its land or water area and number of licensed hunters and anglers. The combination of these three taxes has formed one of the best programs ever devised for the benefit of wildlife, game and non-game species alike.

#### ***Pittman-Robertson***

Passed in 1937, the Federal Aid in Wildlife Restoration Act requires manufacturers of archery equipment, sporting arms and ammunition to pay a tax on their products. After the taxes are collected from the general treasury, they are apportioned to the states for state wildlife conservation programs.

#### ***Dingell-Johnson***

Passed in 1950, the Federal Aid in Sport Fish Restoration Act was modeled after the Pittman-Robertson Act to create a parallel program for management, conservation, and restoration of fishery resources. Manufacturers of fishing rods, reels, creels, lures, flies and artificial baits pay for the fund through an excise tax.

#### ***Wallop-Breaux***

The amendment to the Federal Aid in Sport Fish Restoration Act passed in 1984 established a new Trust Fund, named the Aquatic Resources Trust Fund. Funds are received from import duties on sport fishing equipment, pleasure boats and yachts. Another source of revenue is a tax from motorboat fuel sales.

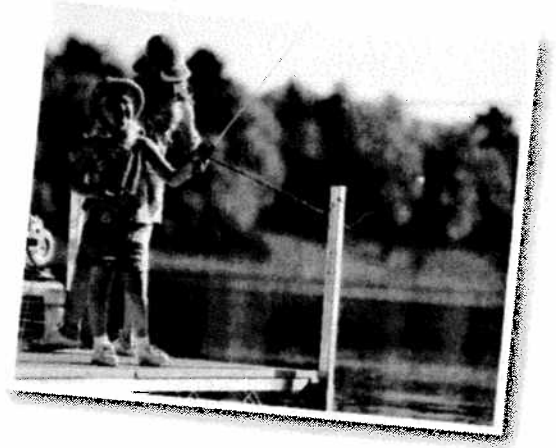
### **Magazine Subscription Revenue      \$171,000**

Another simple way sportsmen show public and financial support for their pastimes, wildlife and conservation. Often with little investment, the annual revenue from this outreach program can pay for itself quickly with the added benefit of direct messaging access to sportsmen.



# Michigan Revenue Sources

Funding Sources	Approximate Amount
Resident hunting license fees	\$24.8 million
Non-resident hunting license fees	\$3.2 million
Resident fishing license fees	\$18 million
Non-resident fishing license fees	\$3.5 million
Federal Aid in Sport Fish Restoration (Dingell-Johnson Act and the Wallop-Breaux Amendment)	\$9.5 million
Federal Aid in Wildlife Restoration (Pittman-Robertson Act)	\$8 million
Appropriations by legislature from general state fund	\$26 million
State Wildlife Grants	\$1.7 million
License plate revenue	\$240,000



## *Hunting and Fishing Access*

Hunting access ranks as one of the top concerns in the sportsmen's community. Unfortunately, access to public and private land continues to shrink. The National Assembly of Sportsmen's Caucuses is addressing the issue through "No Net Loss" legislation and by encouraging state caucuses to work with fish and game agencies to develop walk-in access programs based on other successful models.

### HUNTING ACCESS

Acres of Hunting Land Owned by the State	4.5 million
Acres of Hunting Land Leased by the State	18,000
Acres of Federal Lands for Hunting	3 million
Acres in Private Land Agreements	2 million (Commercial forest land)

### FISHING ACCESS

Number of Docks and Access Locations	1,024 boating access sites 17 Great Lakes harbors
Miles of Waterways for Fishing	11,000 inland lakes 36,000 rivers and streams 38,575 sq. mi. of the Great Lakes

# License, Tags and Permits Add Up

With licenses, tags, permits and stamps making up the bulk of the sportsmen's contribution to conservation and management of the country's natural resources, it's helpful to see how these dollars are generated.



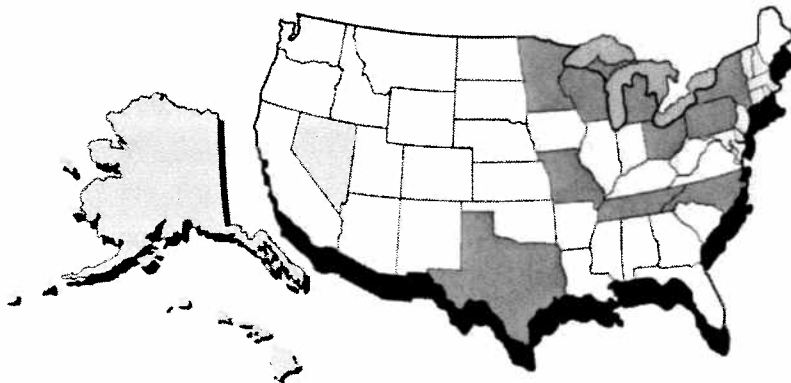
## 2006 Hunting License Sales

<u>State</u>	<u>Paid Hunting License Holders</u>	<u>Resident Licenses, Tags, Permits and Stamps</u>	<u>Non-Resident Licenses, Tags, Permits and Stamps</u>	<u>Total License, Permits &amp; Stamps</u>	<u>Revenues</u>
Alabama	267,354	255,935	46,285	302,220	\$9,340,257
Alaska	98,084	184,860	38,188	223,048	\$8,316,493
Arizona	378,162	353,567	69,255	422,822	\$11,558,603
Arkansas	182,044	356,639	35,334	391,973	\$10,802,988
California	305,962	818,810	15,167	833,977	\$15,961,754
Colorado	318,971	437,720	144,013	581,733	\$54,554,105
Connecticut	54,130	126,748	6,563	133,311	\$2,232,972
Delaware	18,480	25,488	3,480	28,968	\$631,194
Florida	175,067	317,592	6,761	324,353	\$5,308,511
Georgia	314,569	904,205	85,759	989,964	\$13,815,998
Hawaii	8,211	7,924	385	8,309	\$304,685
Idaho	286,607	840,817	122,013	962,830	\$20,165,343
Illinois	250,648	745,227	101,597	846,824	\$21,112,258
Indiana	330,360	1,163,565	58,367	1,221,932	\$17,545,905
Iowa	303,217	486,458	65,677	552,135	\$11,183,328
Kansas	202,274	375,169	95,715	470,884	\$13,006,749
Kentucky	350,544	593,701	61,042	654,743	\$12,935,123
Louisiana	277,108	567,984	34,245	602,229	\$9,707,094
Maine	205,600	212,677	47,685	260,362	\$7,670,701
Maryland	120,914	140,825	27,531	168,356	\$5,644,267
Massachusetts	69,500	228,081	7,036	235,117	\$2,393,180
Michigan	832,835	2,136,866	37,848	2,174,714	\$26,635,311
Minnesota	571,581	1,367,077	30,564	1,397,641	\$29,567,813
Mississippi	234,797	234,614	45,291	279,905	\$9,790,388
Missouri	492,500	1,678,787	63,600	1,742,387	\$18,378,130
Montana	232,869	869,829	137,713	1,007,542	\$26,064,256
Nebraska	165,952	346,686	58,958	405,644	\$9,491,764

<u>State</u>	<u>Paid Hunting License Holders</u>	<u>Resident Licenses, Tags, Permits and Stamps</u>	<u>Non-Resident Licenses, Tags, Permits and Stamps</u>	<u>Total License, Permits &amp; Stamps</u>	<u>Revenues</u>
Nevada	58,722	95,176	15,267	110,443	\$4,377,639
New Hampshire	62,587	186,919	36,511	223,430	\$3,721,195
New Jersey	86,588	268,784	149,305	418,089	\$6,877,002
New Mexico	103,968	289,234	49,056	338,290	\$8,812,445
New York	627,749	1,297,015	78,902	1,375,917	\$20,249,675
North Carolina	438,172	474,710	22,857	497,567	\$9,754,920
North Dakota	147,240	439,770	152,862	592,632	\$7,601,066
Ohio	442,214	1,136,798	42,717	1,179,515	\$17,886,738
Oklahoma	341,260	290,249	17,340	307,589	\$7,881,077
Oregon	283,327	1,267,747	64,147	1,331,894	\$21,450,509
Pennsylvania	1,018,664	2,581,408	137,216	2,718,624	\$39,877,828
Rhode Island	9,302	31,124	2,864	33,988	\$460,313
South Carolina	210,136	404,917	52,493	457,410	\$8,137,508
South Dakota	232,053	254,561	115,666	370,227	\$16,723,210
Tennessee	730,495	1,261,792	40,485	1,302,277	\$13,960,929
Texas	1,073,847	1,225,635	69,025	1,294,660	\$34,302,678
Utah	153,501	230,299	12,402	242,701	\$10,953,575
Vermont	317,484	766,583	50,637	817,220	\$11,247,707
Virginia	86,512	150,749	19,931	170,680	\$3,749,295
Washington	193,046	890,629	11,856	902,485	\$12,284,591
West Virginia	254,222	741,278	208,006	949,284	\$10,123,221
Wisconsin	722,803	2,884,857	145,752	3,030,609	\$35,768,454
Wyoming	136,839	163,117	79,026	242,143	\$23,473,387
<b>Total:</b>	<b>14,779,071</b>	<b>33,111,202</b>	<b>3,020,395</b>	<b>36,131,597</b>	<b>\$703,794,135</b>

### Most Paid Hunting License Holders

1. TEXAS
2. PENNSYLVANIA
3. MICHIGAN
4. TENNESSEE
5. WISCONSIN
6. NEW YORK
7. MINNESOTA
8. MISSOURI
9. OHIO
10. NORTH CAROLINA



### Least Paid Hunting License Holders

1. HAWAII
2. RHODE ISLAND
3. DELAWARE
4. CONNECTICUT
5. NEVADA
6. NEW HAMPSHIRE
7. MASSACHUSETTS
8. VERMONT
9. NEW JERSEY
10. ALASKA

# License, Tags and Permits Add Up

With licenses, tags, permits and stamps making up the bulk of the sportsmen's contribution to conservation and management of the country's natural resources, it's helpful to see how these dollars are generated.



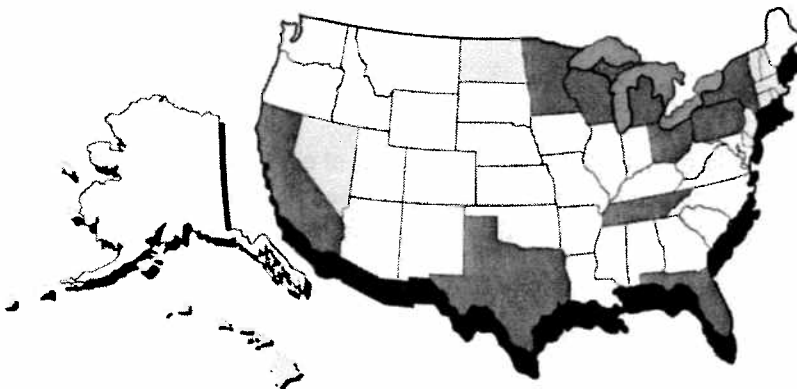
## 2006 Fishing License Sales

<u>State</u>	<u>Paid Fishing License Holders</u>	<u>Resident Licenses, Tags, Permits and Stamps</u>	<u>Non-Resident Licenses, Tags, Permits and Stamps</u>	<u>Total License, Permits &amp; Stamps</u>	<u>Revenues</u>
Alabama	486,877	354,149	117,558	471,707	\$6,534,395
Alaska	468,735	278,811	443,784	722,595	\$13,895,559
Arizona	361,958	376,066	146,326	522,392	\$7,491,401
Arkansas	685,634	503,664	221,595	725,259	\$8,247,948
California	2,024,709	2,944,088	39,349	2,983,437	\$47,967,435
Colorado	668,107	638,412	323,926	962,338	\$10,183,231
Connecticut	148,125	142,418	5,707	148,125	\$2,712,009
Delaware	20,544	21,758	3,893	25,651	\$207,785
Florida	1,296,328	1,406,269	609,234	2,015,503	\$26,145,809
Georgia	667,198	746,092	90,242	836,334	\$8,269,742
Hawaii	5,796	5,902	271	6,173	\$28,274
Idaho	403,741	368,581	169,110	537,691	\$8,888,150
Illinois	713,120	762,054	32,024	794,078	\$9,185,208
Indiana	522,389	471,891	99,743	571,634	\$8,573,587
Iowa	429,689	747,196	54,054	801,250	\$6,844,406
Kansas	265,238	236,458	35,953	272,411	\$4,528,288
Kentucky	580,917	506,167	109,789	615,956	\$8,163,839
Louisiana	639,139	781,164	187,930	969,094	\$9,162,936
Maine	270,698	184,131	76,065	260,196	\$6,423,731
Maryland	362,181	392,019	79,426	471,445	\$5,626,090
Massachusetts	203,139	403,906	22,484	426,390	\$5,375,415
Michigan	1,171,742	1,018,542	276,305	1,294,847	\$21,982,069
Minnesota	1,467,677	1,099,185	282,602	1,381,787	\$27,335,841
Mississippi	369,252	386,079	63,717	449,796	\$4,947,995

<u>State</u>	<u>Paid Fishing License Holders</u>	<u>Resident Licenses, Tags, Permits and Stamps</u>	<u>Non-Resident Licenses, Tags, Permits and Stamps</u>	<u>Total License, Permits &amp; Stamps</u>	<u>Revenues</u>
Missouri	844,318	1,198,974	172,041	1,371,015	\$12,836,591
Montana	379,252	397,169	346,859	744,028	\$9,545,105
Nebraska	176,619	320,038	44,486	364,524	\$3,976,929
Nevada	124,408	205,872	29,813	235,685	\$3,489,283
New Hampshire	143,835	193,389	92,961	286,350	\$4,964,832
New Jersey	169,418	234,759	15,365	250,124	\$4,709,627
New Mexico	205,291	290,199	101,650	391,849	\$3,862,008
New York	983,812	839,814	159,634	999,448	\$21,336,651
North Carolina	692,257	664,371	59,691	724,062	\$12,887,760
North Dakota	168,497	136,035	38,893	174,928	\$1,647,474
Ohio	917,902	850,913	83,765	934,678	\$12,149,452
Oklahoma	668,924	457,533	91,749	549,282	\$9,731,740
Oregon	666,454	806,250	184,210	990,460	\$19,306,121
Pennsylvania	1,018,756	1,516,715	154,000	1,670,715	\$18,438,757
Rhode Island	26,629	46,221	4,246	50,467	\$561,205
South Carolina	498,088	472,390	110,379	582,769	\$5,551,416
South Dakota	206,349	135,880	73,340	209,220	\$4,681,400
Tennessee	1,028,386	903,399	217,443	1,120,842	\$13,287,893
Texas	1,632,016	2,042,607	81,289	2,123,896	\$42,342,033
Utah	373,834	297,923	94,354	392,277	\$9,120,765
Vermont	121,701	82,361	40,522	122,883	\$3,067,915
Virginia	619,853	689,289	83,812	773,101	\$9,017,659
Washington	691,191	2,032,449	323,314	2,355,763	\$17,615,410
West Virginia	269,727	641,662	155,344	797,006	\$4,541,881
Wisconsin	1,391,173	1,269,067	408,028	1,677,095	\$28,640,850
Wyoming	247,583	112,232	150,479	262,711	\$4,901,873
<b>Total:</b>	<b>28,499,206</b>	<b>31,612,513</b>	<b>6,808,754</b>	<b>38,421,267</b>	<b>\$540,933,776</b>

#### Most Paid Fishing License Holders

1. CALIFORNIA
2. TEXAS
3. MINNESOTA
4. WISCONSIN
5. FLORIDA
6. MICHIGAN
7. TENNESSEE
8. PENNSYLVANIA
9. NEW YORK
10. OHIO



#### Least Paid Fishing License Holders

1. HAWAII
2. DELAWARE
3. RHODE ISLAND
4. VERMONT
5. NEVADA
6. NEW HAMPSHIRE
7. CONNECTICUT
8. NORTH DAKOTA
9. NEW JERSEY
10. NEBRASKA

# Ballot Initiatives And Referenda

The State of Michigan uses ballot initiatives and referenda. The agency is not legally allowed to take action for or against ballot initiatives and referenda.



## Michigan Initiatives and Referenda, 1910 – 2006

Year	Type	Summary	Outcome
1996	Initiative	Limit the bear hunting season and prohibit the use of dogs or bait to hunt bear	Fail (Yes: 38.6%)
1996	Popular Referendum	Natural Resources Commission is granted exclusive authority to regulate the taking of game in the state	Pass (Yes: 68.7%)
2006	Initiative	Authorizes open season for hunting of mourning doves	Fail (Yes: 31%)
2006	Popular Referendum	Protects conservation funds from being converted into general state revenue	Pass (81.7%)

\* Percentage of support votes not available

## Common Ballot Measure Issues

Though the range of ballot initiatives and referenda extends many topics affecting sportsmen, there are common themes that have been observed over many decades and as recent trends.

### Restricting or Ending Trapping

Proposals to ban trapping devices have been presented on the ballot 11 times in the following states: Massachusetts, Ohio, Oregon, Arizona, Colorado, California, Idaho, and Washington. These measures have passed 6 times out of the 11 total proposals for a success rate of 55% against sportsmen. The first trapping restriction proposal was in 1930, while the most recent has been in Washington in 2000.

### Mourning Dove Hunting Seasons

Whether to allow hunters to take mourning doves has been the subject of citizen-sponsored initiatives in South Dakota, Ohio and Michigan since 1972. The attempt in to ban hunting the species passed in South Dakota, but was overturned in less than a decade. Ohio voters continued to allow dove hunting while Michigan voters opted to end the practice.



# State Agency Contact Information

In order to give sportsmen the most benefits, it is vital that legislative leaders and state fish and game policy makers regularly communicate and work together.

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## About the Michigan State Chapter of the National Wild Turkey Federation



The Michigan Chapter of the NWTF is a grassroots, nonprofit organization that supports scientific wildlife management on public, private and corporate lands, as well as wild turkey hunting as a traditional North American sport. Since 1985 over **\$2.6 million** has been raised and spent by Michigan chapters on projects within the state. A sampling of these projects include:

**Habitat Enhancement:** Spent \$1.5 million on habitat improvement projects impacting more than 54,703 acres within the state.

® **Education:** Spent \$390,840 on educational programs and literature including scholarships, education boxes, 4-H and teacher workshops.

**Youth Programs:** Spent \$185,000 to introduce youth to outdoor activities, conservation and hunting as well as sponsored 335 JAKES Conservation Field Days throughout the state.

Phone: 800-THE-NWTF      Web: [www.NWTF.org](http://www.NWTF.org)  
Mail: P.O. Box 530, Edgefield, SC 29824

## About the National Assembly of Sportsmen's Caucuses



The National Assembly of Sportsmen's Caucuses (NASC) unites state legislators in support of hunting, fishing, and trapping, as well as professional wildlife management, in the halls of state government. NASC does this by forming state sportsmen's caucuses within state legislatures; serving as a central and unifying source of information, model legislation, and funding assistance for state sportsmen's caucuses; and providing a venue for focused interaction and idea exchange among state caucuses, sportsmen's groups, industry, media and allied interests. NASC is the only organization in the United States whose sole purpose is to coordinate and work with legislators and policy makers to protect and promote the rights of sportsmen and women. NASC shares a unique relationship with state sportsmen's caucuses in state capitols across the country with an affiliation of nearly 2,500 state legislators.

Phone: 202-543-6907      Web: [www.statesportsmenslink.org](http://www.statesportsmenslink.org)  
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NASC would like to acknowledge Responsive Management ([www.responsivemanagement.com](http://www.responsivemanagement.com)) for its efforts in collecting information from state fish and game agencies, in addition to their efforts in compiling data from various sources used in this report. These sources include the 2006 National Survey of Fishing, Hunting and Wildlife-Associated Recreation; economic data tables provided by Southwick and Associates, a report previously produced by Responsive Management titled, Public Opinions on Fish and Wildlife Management Issues. In addition NASC would like to acknowledge the assistance of